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regarding "collective ligand variant population." Specifically, the Examiner requests election of a specific type of receptor and the number of receptors, with the choice being either less than five receptors or five or more receptors. Regarding "collective ligand variant populations," the Examiner requests election of whether the collective ligand variant population is tagged or not tagged and election of the type of "collective ligand variant population," with the choices being: polypeptide, nucleic acid, carbohydrate, lipid, or organic-derived compound. Election of a specific disclosed species in each of the subgroups for prosecution on the merits is required by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. § 121.

Regarding receptors, Applicants elect for examination G-protein coupled receptors (GPCRs) as the type of receptor and five or more receptors as the number of receptors. Support for the election of GPCRs as the type of receptor can be found throughout the specification, for example, at page 17, lines 8-22, and page 25, lines 8-21. Applicants assert that claims 10-18 and 39-45 read on the election of GPCRs as the type of receptor and claims 10-18, 40, and 42-45 read on the election of five or more receptors as the number of receptors.

Regarding "collective ligand variant population,"

Applicants elect for examination collective ligand variant populations that are tagged and contain polypeptide as the ligand type. Applicants assert that claims 10-18 and 39-45 read on the election of tagged collective ligand variant populations and

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claims 10-18, 39-41, and 43 read on the election of polypeptide as the type of ligand.

Applicant's would like to take this opportunity to draw the Examiner's attention to a minor error in the Response to the Final Office Action filed on February 15, 2002. An inadvertent error was made in the marked-up version of amended claim 10 as attached to the Response in Appendix A. The correctly amended version of claim 10 can be found on page 2 of the Response as filed. In order to clarify the record, we have attached a correctly marked-up version of claim 10 that correlates with the amended version of claim 10 as found on page 2 of the Response.

Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned agent to discuss the nature of the invention when the case is taken up for substantive examination. In addition, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned agent or Cathryn Campbell if there are any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 15, 2002

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